

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4961

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, GW, PL, US

SUBJECT: MORE ON FRG-POLISH RELATIONS AND GIEREK VISIT

TO US

REF: A) BONN 13965; B) WARSAW 5473

1. LOCAL POLISH COUNSELOR, WHO WAS RECENTLY IN WARSAW, TOLD EMBOFF SEPT 10 THAT PRESENT PLANS IN POLISH FONOFF WERE TO HAVE GIEREK AND/OR SENIOR POLISH OFFICIALS RAISE POLISH-FRG PROBLEMS WITH US SIDE DURING GIEREK VISIT TO US IN OCTOBER. POLISH FEELING IS THAT ONLY US CAN BRING FRG TO TAKE A "MORE REASONABLE" VIEW TOWARD POLISH PROBLEMS.

2. POLISH LEADERSHIP IS REPORTEDLY CONCERNED BY WHAT IT REGARDS AS TIGHT-FISTED FRG APPROACH ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION. OUR SOURCE SAID THE GERMAN OFFER OF ONE BILLION MARK CREDIT WAS SO SURROUNDED BY UNACCEPTABLE POLITICAL CONDITIONS (READ SETTLEMENT OF ETHNIC GERMAN PROBLEM) THAT NO POLISH GOVERNMENT COULD ACCEPT IT.

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3. POLISH DIPLOMAT SAID THAT GIEREK'S POSITION WAS NOT AS STRONG AS IT HAD BEEN IN WARSAW. THERE WERE ELEMENTS IN THE LEADERSHIP THAT NO LONGER SUPPORTED HIM WHOLE-HEARTEDLY. THE ISSUE OF POLISH-FRG RELATIONS WAS REGARDED THROUGHOUT THE POLISH POLITICAL SPECTRUM AS THE TOUCHSTONE OF POLAND'S EUROPEAN POLICY: FAILURE TO ACHIEVE A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO POLISH AIMS IN THAT RELATIONSHIP (READ ECONOMIC CREDITS AND SOME GERMAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE MATTER OF COMPENSATION TO POLISH VICTIMS OF NAZISM) COULD PUT GIEREK IN DOMESTIC DIFFICULTY.

4. EMBOFF WAS NOT ENCOURAGING IN REPLY TO POLISH DIPLOMAT'S QUESTION AS TO WHETHER US COULD TAKE UP THE GENERAL ISSUE OF POLISH-FRG DIFFICULTIES WITH THE GERMANS AT A HIGH LEVEL.

HILLENBRAND

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